

need not be afraid, Miss Charlotte, of stroking him. He knows you and all the family too well to behave amiss to you. See how he wags his tail, which is a proof how happy he thinks himself in being taken notice of by you. Come, my dears, we will proceed on another Ramble, and as we walk on, I will tell you something of the nature of this faithful animal.

Of all the accomplishments a dog possesses, none is more pleasing to us, than that inviolable friendship, and undaunted courage, which he shews for his master on all occasions, and in this respect dogs may be considered as our faithful companions, assistants, and protectors. You have both of you heard your papa relate, that your good dog Hector prevented a thief robbing him on the highway, and he has more than once saved the house from being broke open, by his alarming the family with barking, which  
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was as much as to say, "Master, here are thieves in the yard."

I will now, my dear children, tell you for what purposes the different kinds of dogs were intended by our wise Creator; for he has assigned every kind of dog for some particular purpose. But I shall take no notice, Miss Charlotte, of your lap-dog, for they are useless animals, and often are fed better than poor people.

The mastiff and the bull-dog guard our houses in the night, and reserve all their fury and resentment for those hours, in which necessitous vagrants may form bad designs against us. How terrible it is to be waked out of our sleep by men with pistols in their hands! It would frighten you out of your mind, Miss Charlotte; and I am not clear how Master Billy would behave on such an occasion. I am not at all surpris'd that you are so fond of Hector.

It is the property of the shepherd's dog to attack the wolf in those countries that  
abound